

# United States Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Muir Woods National Monument

Mill Valley, CA 94941

Phone: 415-388-2596; Fax: 415-389-6957

[www.nps.gov/muwo](http://www.nps.gov/muwo)

April 2008

Dear Bus Driver and Tour Guide:

This is a special time in Muir Woods...we are celebrating our centennial as a national monument. Please take time to review our park's history to learn of its significance as the first area set aside through the generous philanthropy of William and Elizabeth Kent. They recognized the value of an old-growth forest close to a growing metropolitan area and its importance as an outdoor classroom as well as a place for scientific inquiry. The Kents were way ahead of their time in their appreciation of the primeval qualities of this redwood forest. Thank you for sharing these special stories with visitors, taking time for your own walk among the trees and helping people see that the messages are still very relevant today.

**WEBSITE** Look on our website ([www.nps.gov/muwo](http://www.nps.gov/muwo)) for stories, photographs, a calendar of events...it is updated regularly! And, our Visitor Center has special products so all can take home the celebration...new items to be added soon! Several books will be released this summer featuring the images of our Centennial photographer, Stephen Joseph. And soon we'll have a \$1 Cultural Self-Guide brochure to guide you through the park's history. The park brochure is now on our website in 8 languages PLUS available at the Visitor Center in a paper-saving rack card format.

**SOUNDSCAPE** A major initiative for the park has been valuing and protecting the natural soundscape so that all may experience the unique peace and quiet of a redwood forest. On May 19 we will declare Cathedral Grove a quiet zone in honor of the day in 1945 when the United Nations delegates met here. Encourage your clients to respect the quiet of the forest by asking them to talk in low tones (if at all), turn off cell phones and suggesting they pause often to listen. Thank you for quietly spreading the word!

**TICKETS** If you are using pre-paid, advance ("yellow") tickets, please distribute these tickets to your passengers and have them turn them into the fee collectors at the Visitor Center. Please remember that children 15 years and younger are free and do not need tickets. (If you would like advance tickets, please contact the fee program directly at 415-388-7368).

This summer we hope to improve the flow of visitors at the entrance. We'll have a ranger in the parking lots to assist with traffic as well as to meet and greet visitors. Look for improvements to queuing and ticket handling as well. We'll be experimenting a bit so please be understanding if the system changes a few times...your feedback is important!

**SHUTTLE** The Rt 66 Shuttle will operate on weekends and holidays from the beginning of May through the end of September. The first two bus lot spaces are dedicated to the shuttle.

Bus lot full? Pull behind buses to unload when safe. Then, leave parking lot, turn right and continue down the Muir Woods Rd. to park off-road where safe. Wait until space up in the lot becomes available (you see other buses leave) OR it is time to return to pick up your passengers. **Remember:** do not pull in to the upper lot (in front of the Visitor Center) to unload unless you have passengers with accessibility needs.

Thank you for being part of how we make each visitor's time here special. We appreciate your efforts to encourage all to visit respectfully so we can also hope the redwood forest has another century of tremendous life.

Sincerely,

Mia Monroe, Site Supervisor  
National Park Service, Muir Woods